

AUGUST 2023



ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

England Football
Grassroots Club
of the Year 2023

Football Family



@cambournetownfc
cambournetownfc.org.uk

Cambourne Town FC wins England Football's National Grassroots Club of the Year Award

In a huge accolade for both the club and Cambourne as a whole, Cambourne Town FC has been presented with the National Grassroots Club of the Year Award. The exciting announcement came during half time of the

FA Community Shield match between Arsenal and Manchester City at Wembley Stadium on 6th August – with Cambourne Town Football Club representatives attending to receive the prestigious award.



National Grassroots Club of the Year 2023

Cambourne Town FC was chosen to win this prestigious award due to the breadth of football opportunities we offer the local community
England Football considered that we as a club:

Sit at the heart of our community
providing an opportunity for all to get involved

Think outside the box to make football better for more people

Clearly demonstrate, both on and off the pitch, how we are inclusive and play our part in the local community

Support FA initiatives such as Wildcats, Squad Girls or Just Play

Grow on pitch opportunities, introducing recreational or new teams for male, female and disabled players

Provide facilities that offer more opportunities for players on the pitch and for our community away from the pitch

“The winning of this national award is a testament to the dedication, hard work and time invested by all our volunteer committee members, managers and coaches, as well as the Town Council and the players and the parents who have supported us all the way. They should all take great pride in this recognition”

–Cllr Greg Thompson, CTFC Chair

WINNERS!

Co-Club Secretary Melanie Hadley led the delegation from Cambourne to accept the award at Wembley Stadium. She recounts the excitement of the day...



Having received the news about our award win from England FA on 8th June, Richard, Emma and I were all bursting with pride for our club. Unable to share the information with anyone at that time the three of us chatted about how unbelievable it was and how excited we were.

The news was finally announced internally to the club leading up to Trophy Day and the nerves and apprehension of what was to come started to hit home; TV crews, photographers and the trip to Wembley looming. Trophy day was a huge success and interviews were given with plenty of photographs taken to remember the day for everyone. Next up: The Road to Wembley.

The evening before felt like it was the night before Christmas for us all.

An early morning start for everyone as we met up at The Dugout, having been kindly allowed to hire the Cambourne Community Minibus – which was affectionately named Beryl by the 15 of us aboard. Arriving safely in London thanks to Emma's skillful driving, we made our way to the stadium, passing the Royal Box and heading to Club Lounge Wembley.

At this point I was taken off for a quick briefing with England FA on what to expect throughout the day. Suddenly spotting John Barnes and Rachel Yankey just mingling we felt overawed at what we had achieved along with the other winners. We were then shown to our table to spot Sir Geoff Hurst was seated with us!

The awards ceremony commenced with BBC Sports presenter Seema Jaswal our host for the afternoon. Amazing stories were shared as the winners of the national awards were

announced, 12 categories in total. Inspiring young coaches of just 18 years old, life savers and ground staff. Awards announced in blocks of four, with amazing food served between.

We saw Gareth Southgate and Steve Holland just metres away on stage telling stories from their own grassroots beginnings. Finally, it was our turn – number 11 of 12 awards.

John Barnes stepped on stage and our name was announced. Our video played and then it was up on to the stage we all went in front of a room of 400 people.

Feelings of wow and look what we have achieved as a club – all our volunteers, our managers, coaches, youth and adult players all bringing our community together as one.

Then it was now time for the match – and what a match it was! At half time the score was 0-0 and I was looking for the nod from Ben Grady at the FA as it was our moment on the big screen and a trip to the pitch – knowing the crowd size was 81,145 people.

Walking out onto the pitch and representing our club is something I will never ever forget, hearing the enormous cheer when Cambourne Town FC was announced as the National Club of the Year, looking up and spotting my son in the crowd, my immense pride in us all as I looked around and took it all in, wanting to savour the moment and share it with everyone.

After the match we went back to the lounge and enjoyed some rapping to *World in Motion* from



John Barnes and an amazing rendition of *Sweet Caroline* from Sir Geoff! The incredible band kept the whole room entertained.

Walking back to "Beryl" ready for the journey home all of us were just astounded at what a day we had just had, sharing a room with footballing heroes but also everyday heroes too.

Our club is made up of some amazing people, people who give up their time for others, allowing children to play the sport they love and continue into adulthood and providing a network of lifelong friends. Coaches who give up time with their own families to make sure the team is supported. All volunteers who want to make a difference and what a difference we are making.

Thank you to all of you. It is truly an honour to have represented you at Wembley.



“This amazing award is very gratefully received – it shows what can be accomplished when people come together and put co-operation and inclusivity at the very heart of everything they do”
– Richard Brown, CTFC Secretary, 2021-2023

What next?

The club now looks forward to exciting times ahead, as this award will aid our fundraising and development plans such as improving pitch and changing room facilities, new signage and implementing a range of football development initiatives in partnership with the Town Council... Watch this space!

Cover photo:

Back row: **Jane Sulch** (Colts Secretary), **John Barnes**, **Myles Hadley** (Assistant Coach U13 Blues and Webmaster), **Lauren Smith** (Wildcats Coach & Ladies Goalkeeper), **Sharon Greaves** (Accreditation Officer), **Emma Smith** (Co-Secretary and Fixtures Secretary), **Rhys Thoroughgood** (Men's Secretary and Saturday men's team player) and **Adam Smith** (Soccer School and Wildcats Coach, Early Years Officer, U16 Girls Coach and Adult Saturday Men's Coach, Assistant Coach to Ladies Team)

Middle row: Holding the award, **Melanie Hadley** (Co-Secretary and Events Manager)

Front row: **Ethan Dowe** (Coach U14 Greys and Saturday men's player), **Hannah Plumb** (Wildcats Coach and Ladies team player), **Ben Hadley** (Youth player in U13 Blues), **Madison Smith** (Dugout Support) and **Alfie Tate** (Football Development Officer, CTFC)

WELCOME TO THE DUGOUT.
THE HOME OF CAMBOURNE TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB.



www.cambournetownfc.org.uk
@cambournetownfc

Join John Barnes at The Dugout's Big Birthday Bash!

23 September 2023

Come and celebrate The Dugout's first birthday with a quiz night, bingo and music bingo. Doors open at 6pm for a 6.30 start

Book your quiz spot at cambournetownfc.square.site

HAPPY
Birthday
TO US.



Join us at The
Dugout for our 1st
Birthday on 23rd
Sept.

Doors open from 8:30am. Quiz and Bingo from 6pm.
Bar open, food served and Sky Sports showing on
the big screens. Bring your friends and family for a
fun filled evening. Booking essential for Quiz. £1 per
person for quiz, bingo payable on the night.

WITH SPECIAL GUEST:
FORMER ENGLAND
INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLER

JOHN BARNES

At The Dugout between 1-5PM



Key contacts

CAMBOURNE TOWN FC COMMITTEE

- **Greg Thompson** *Chair*
- **John Vickery** *Vice Chair*
- **Melanie Hadley** *Club Secretary (Lead)*
- **Emma Smith** *Club Secretary (Assistant)*
 - **Dan Scruton** *Boys' Mini Secretary*
 - **Jane Sulch** *Colts' Secretary*
 - **Matt Heyes** *Girls' / Women's Secretary*
 - **Rhys Thoroughgood** *Men's Secretary*
- **Pio Szyjanowicz** *Treasurer*
- **Julia Cullum** *Welfare Officer*
 - **Claire Grain** *Assistant Welfare Officer*
 - **Rachel Cook** *Assistant Welfare Officer*
- **Jane Thompson** *Marketing Officer / Sponsorship Officer*
- **Melanie Hadley** *Events Officer / Sponsorship Officer*
- **Emma Smith** *Fixtures Secretary*
- **Chris Williamson** *Development Secretary*
- **Jay Clarke** *Fundraising Officer*
- **Sharon Greaves** *Accreditation Officer*
- **Alfie Tate** *Football Development Officer*
 - **Adam Smith** *Early Years Officer*
- **Matthew Whiteley** *Kit Manager*
- **Myles Hadley** *Webmaster / Committee Support*

Contact us

Any general enquires can be sent to hello@cambournetownfc.org.uk



CAMBOURNE TOWN FC FOOTBALL CENTRE

For Girls and Boys aged
between 8 and 12

for information and to register contact
development@cambournetownfc.org.uk



Tuesdays (U8s to U10s) and Wednesdays (U11s & U12s) on the 3G pitches between 4pm-5pm. These sessions are for players who are not currently part of any of our age group football teams. The sessions are bookable as a 6 week block booking for £27.50

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Following the Trial Period of our Development Centre across May & June, we are delighted to confirm that we will be continuing with this initiative into the 2023-2024 season.

The session has been renamed to Football Centre! This is to provide children who can't access a team at Cambourne with the chance to keep training and developing their skills until a space opens up.

Sessions will cover the 'Brilliant Basics' through sessions and gameplay to help develop the core skills of a footballer!

Tuesdays 4-5pm: 8- to 10-year-olds
Wednesdays 4-5pm: 11- to 12-year-olds

To book your child's place for this, please email Alfie at development@cambournetownfc.org.uk or visit [cambournetownfc.org.uk](https://cambournetownfc.square.site) or visit cambournetownfc.square.site

CAMBOURNE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



2023 TOURNAMENT

SAT 2ND & SUN 3RD SEPTEMBER

U7-U16 BOYS & GIRLS

**£35 per
team**



GREAT CAMBOURNE SPORTS PITCHES CB23 6FY FOOD, DRINKS AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Register now using this link
<https://cambournetownfc.square.site>
or scan the QR code



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THE FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE
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